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Period 5

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The Crucible Anticipation/Reaction Guide

1. Confessing to a crime you didn’t commit in order to avoid punishment is wise.

This question right here can be answered in two way depending on the crime, punishment, and even era. In today’s time I would disagree and not confess to the crime because I have a chance to be proven innocent, but if it was during old times such as 1600s like the crucible I would rather confess and get a small punishment rather than being killed, because those were the usual punishments for most crimes.

In today’s times to confess to a crime that you did not commit to avoid punishment is not a wise decision. The reasons for this is that if you admit to a crime you would get punished rather than avoiding one, and probably get a bigger punishment since you lied saying that you committed a crime. If you didn’t do what you were accused of yet you say that you did wouldn’t you be lying to the police which is actually illegal. This here would actually lead to a bigger punishment. If you commit a crime then you will face punishment no matter what. Another thing is that once you lie you can also get a reputation as a liar and people wouldn’t trust you make things difficult for you in the future.

You should let the person that committed the crime take their punishments, and get what they deserve instead of you covering for them and suffering their punishment. I believe that if you did the crime then you should be punished, but if you didn’t then there is no reason for you to get punished, and you will not get out of a punishment for protecting the person who did it. Also if you are accused of doing a crime you that you have not done you can say that you didn’t do it. So what you should be worrying more if you don’t want to get punished and you didn’t do anything is to actually find a way that proves your innocence, that way you can actually avoid a punishment. The people that are probably accusing you only what you to confess so they can punish you and even if they say you won’t get in trouble they are probably lying to you. Also if have evidence that proves that your innocent or someone else is the guilty one then there is even less of a reason for you to confess to something that didn’t even involve you.

In the case of the crucible I think this question right here would have a different answer. I would say yet. The reason for this is because if I was given the choice between confessing to something that I didn’t do or dying , obviously all of us would rather pick lying, because it is natural for us to want to survive and to minimize our pain. We can see that during the time that The Crucible takes place maybe people were accused of things such as witch craft, and sinning, most punishment were death, and most of the people accused were actually innocent. If I was one of these innocent people and I had the choice to lie and confess to something I didn’t do then I would lie because it is instinct to save our selves, like the saying “every man to himself”.

1. The difference between right and wrong is clear.

I disagree with this statement; I believe that where there are things that are clearly right and other things that are clearly wrong, there is a big area that is grey caught in between right and wrong. Right and wrong is something that is not known but taught, by life,experiences, people, parents, laws, and society. When I was a little kid I was shown not to lie, be rude, curse, kill, steal, and to be a good person, honestly, helpful, and forgiving, yet where my parents taught me these values there are parents in other parts of this world that teach their kids opposite values, or similar. There are children who grow up with a household that are okay with profanity, that child there thinks it is the norm and right to use curse words, although in reality for some people it is dead wrong. I believe that right and wrong today is determined by what the person’s society believes is right of wrong, and by what children are raised to believe. It is a common thing that in our society we are taught that stealing is wrong and punishable and there are no excuses, but there are people who are raised that stealing is okay in only extreme occasions. For example we see people all over the world in extreme poverty who have stolen food to feed their families, in their eyes it is okay for them because they might be in a situation that it seems right, but for someone from our society that has food provided for them and people who work in the law, stealing is stealing and is wrong. Here we can see how the difference between right and wrong is not clear, because it all depends on the person and their belief and morals. What may be right for someone could be wrong for another, we are all different so therefore we all view and think differently. Another thing is that between right and wrong there is also a gray area, where it can be either. Most of us can agree that depending the situations we are in we have to different choices and two different outcomes. Since many people have different interpretations of right and wrong, if a person’s interpretations are different than another person’s they will handle the situation in very different ways, because they view it differently. Nothing in reality is completely right or completely wrong, there are many cultures in this world and people have and are being raised and taught different. Therefore honestly no one can really define right and wrong and this is where the gray area exists.

1. It is better to die in what you believe in rather than to lie to save your life.

Throughout history there have been many people who have sacrificed their lives for something that they believe in and will continue to do so for many years to come; I myself believe that it is better to die for what you believe in rather than lie to save my life. It is honorable to die for a cause that I believe than to be a selfish coward and lie only to save myself. When you live a life full of lies in reality you’re not living, you become so consumed with you lies that in reality in a way you’re already dead. We all know that throughout time there have been women and men who have given their lives for their causes, such as soldiers in batter, Martin Luther King Jr., Joan of Arcs, and many other Christian martyrs.

I would rather die for my belief then lie to save myself because I can’t live a lie; I think that would kill me more than actually dying for what I believe. I would become what I fear the most which is a coward. There have been many cowards in history like Judas who betrayed Jesus with a kiss on the cheek, Hitler who killed himself because he lost World War II, and many more. I honestly would rather be remembered also as a person who had the courage to die for my beliefs, than a selfish coward only out to take care of myself. It is better to die with dignity than having to live in a prison of lies. Another good reason why I would die for my belief is because it helps and proves a point to the people who are left behind. It set an example and helps people realized that they have to stand up for their beliefs and not give up on anything. It also shows that you are in control of your own life and people cannot tell you what to believe in no matter what threats they give. An example of someone who didn’t give up on what they believed was Jesus Christ, he preached about god, and died on a crucifix because he didn’t lie, or coward away because he was afraid of death, he has the courage to die for his beliefs, and the beliefs of others. He not only died for his belief but impacted many people with his death and even today people look up to his sacrifice for his belief. He not only stood up for his beliefs but also set an example for those who looked up to him.

1. There is only one correct way to interpret the Bible.

In the world today there are many versions of the Bible in English alone, with all these versions there are many way to interpret them. The Bible is the Christian scriptures which consist of the Old and New Testament, in the world today there are many branches of Christianity all over the world. These groups are Protestant, Catholic, Lutheran, Baptist, Methodist, Orthodox, and many more. All these different groups read the Bible yet they are interpreting them differently and preach them differently. Also with all these groups of Christianity many of them have revised and made their own versions of the Bible. Not only do they have all have different versions but they also focus on different aspects. For example, Catholics and Orthodox Christians are known to pray to God and Jesus like most religions, but they also pray to the Virgin Mary, and many different saints. On the other hand there are Protestants and Baptist who only focus on worships and praying to God and Jesus.

The Bible is a book that can be read and understood in many ways and I believe there isn’t one specific interpretation that is correct. Some people read the Bible and take everything that it says in a literal fashion, some interpret it in an allegorical way and others since they don’t believe in Christianity even read it as fiction. The Bible is the most translated and printed book in the world, although many people argue that there is only one way to read it they are wrong because if there was only one way to interpret it then all the branches of Christianity would not exist in the first place. If everyday things that we read can be interpreted in many ways, then the Bible of course would be interpreted in many different ways all over the world. Even the people that wrote the Bible themselves probably interpreted it in a different way than we would. Another thing is that depending on the era that the Bible was being read, people interpret it differently. For example during colonial time the people used the Bible as a reason to kill the Native Americans and relocate them, according to their interpretation of the Bible they were lesser than the colonist and since they weren’t Christians it was acceptable for them to be killed. In today’s times although no one is killing each other over their interpretations of the Bible there are still people who treat others bad because of what they believe the Bible says. This can be seen as some Christian groups obsess over people’s lives and treat those bad or try to convert them because according to their understanding they are living wrong and use the Holy book as an excuse. Everyone views things differently and everyone has different opinions and there is nothing that we can really do about it. The Bible has always been interpreted in many ways and people will continue doing so until the day that everyone thinks the exact same way, which will probably never happen, so therefore there is no correct to really interpret the Bible.

1. That which doesn’t destroy us only makes us stronger.

I believe that this statement is right, life is just one be rollercoaster of trials, failures, success, and everything in between. There are going to be many thing in life that are going to test us harshly, almost destroy us , question our beliefs, and this is only going to make us stronger for even harder trials up ahead. At one moment you can be at the top of the world but life will kick you off and you will fall hard, but all these falls teach us lessons that make us wiser and therefore stronger. Not only does it make us stronger but it makes us into a different person we discover a side of us that we never knew existed. When we overcome our weakness, we gain a strong side of us that not only help us through our challenges, but we wake up become more aware of our surroundings. This helps us look at the brighter side of life, and become more mature individuals.

We as humans are not perfect and we all go through experience in life that will torture us, make us suffer, and want to give up, but once you’re at the bottom there is no where else but to go up, and that rise gives up strength and makes it easier for us to face other challenges in life. An example that challenges many people in the world are people who have Cancer or have survived it, these people endure a horrible, deadly, and painful disease, but they come out as stronger people, they see life differently from they use to, and focus more on life and things that are important. Life is just one big waiting room full of experiences that make or break us, and life is just one big lesson that reminds us to be better and stronger every day.

1. It’s more difficult to forgive yourself if the person you have hurt doesn’t forgive you.

I agree with this statement, it is true that it is extremely difficult for you to forgive yourself if the person that you hurt either accidently or on purpose doesn’t forgive you. When the person you hurt doesn’t forgive you they are actually hurting themselves and making it difficult for the other person to forgive themselves because they have this heavy weight weighting them down , when they just want to move on. Sometimes the biggest relief you can get after you apologize and feel guilty is hearing the words “I forgive you”. When you do something wrong and hurt someone and you feel guilty and you have the pain build up inside of you and you just become full of regret and guilt, and would do anything just to take what you’ve done back and take away the pain you caused another person. If that alone makes you feel bad imagine if the person you hurt never let it go, and held whatever you did against you forever, and made you feel bad about it although you are truly sorry about it. That right there feels horrible and is a horrible pain to live with because it is also something that makes you stay in the moment of what you did and you can’t get over it. Therefore I believe that is difficult for you to forgive yourself if you cannot even be forgiven by the person you damaged.